

## A B S T R A C T

## GASTRIC RING MADE OF VARIABLE HARDNESS ELASTOMERIC MATERIAL

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The invention provides a gastroplasty band (1) formed by a flexible strip designed to be closed around the stomach of a patient by closure means (5, 6), said strip including an annular compression chamber (7) connected by a catheter (9) to a device for adjusting the diameter of said chamber by injecting or withdrawing fluid, said chamber comprising dorsal reinforcement (12) extended by lateral walls (13), the band being characterized in that:

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· the dorsal reinforcement (12) is made out of a first elastomer material having predetermined hardness  $d_1$  on the Shore A scale; and

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· the lateral walls (13) are made out of a second elastomer material of the same kind as the first material but of predetermined hardness  $d_2$  on the Shore A scale that is such that  $d_2 < d_1$ , thereby obtaining a one-piece annular chamber (7) of hardness on the Shore A scale that varies across its thickness.

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Translation of the abstract as it was when originally filed by the Applicant. No account has been taken of any changes that may have been made subsequently by the PCT Authorities acting ex officio, e.g. under PCT Rules 37.2, 38.2, and/or 48.3.